

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry op-ed film days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Sinclair's blatant use of its license to promote a far-right political agenda and outright character assassination, complete devoid of "objective reporting," shows how close we are coming to a state run by raw power instead of informed consent.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.